

10/510062

DT04 Rec'd PCT/PTO 0 4 OCT 2004

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CLAIMS

1. A radio communication terminal comprising a radio module for processing radio signals, a processor for processing digital signals associated with the radio signals, an audio generator adapted to generate an audio input signal to the processor in response to sound in the vicinity of the terminal, a power supply, and a power controller to control connection of the power supply to the radio module and having a standby mode in which the radio module and processor are energised periodically to detect a radio channel, characterised in that the power controller energises the audio generator to generate an audio input to the processor only during the radio channel, and the processor is adapted to respond to a predetermined sound by activating said terminal for communication.
2. A terminal as claimed in claim 1 in which the processor processes digital signals from the radio module during one or more successive data bursts of the radio channel.
3. A terminal as claimed in claim 2 in which the radio channel is a paging channel.
4. A terminal as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which said predetermined sound comprises a narrow-band sound.
5. A terminal as claimed in claim 4 in which said predetermined sound comprises a whistle.
6. A terminal as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which the processor incorporates a sound recognition algorithm which distinguishes said predetermined sound from speech in the audio input signal.
7. A terminal as claimed in claim 6 in which the recognition algorithm is adapted to detect total energy in the audio input signal above a predetermined threshold.
8. A terminal as claimed in claim 7 in which the recognition algorithm is adapted to detect multiple energy peaks at different frequencies in the audio input signal, and to compare the energy in these peaks.

AMENDED PAGE